

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 12-21 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend Claims 2, 7, 8-10 and 11 as follows:

B¹ 2. (Amended) A DNA encoding the protein
[according to claim 1] the amino acid sequence represented by
SEQ ID NO: 2.

B² 7. (Amended) A process for producing a protein
comprising an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:

2, comprising:

selecting [culturing] the transformant
according to claim 6;

culturing the transformant in a medium to
produce and accumulate the protein [according to claim] in
[the] culture; and

recovering said protein from the [resulting]
culture.

8. (Amended) An [oligonucleotide] oligonucleotide comprising a 15 mer portion of the nucleotide sequence of the DNA according to any one of claims 2 to 4.

9. (Amended) An oligonucleotide comprising a 15 mer portion of a nucleotide sequence complementary to the DNA according to any one of claims 2 to 4.

10. (Amended) A method for detecting mRNA [derived from the protein] corresponding to a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 [according to claim 1], comprising [using] selecting the oligonucleotide according to claim 8; and using said oligonucleotide in a Northern blot.

11. (Amended) A method for detecting mRNA [derived from the protein] corresponding to a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 [according to claim 1], comprising [using] selecting the oligonucleotide according to claim 9; and using said oligonucleotide in a Northern blot.

Please add new claims 22-29 as follows:

--22. A composition comprising the oligonucleotide

according to claim 8 and buffer.

Sw C3
23. The oligonucleotide according to claim 8 which comprises a 40 mer portion of the nucleotide sequence.

24. The oligonucleotide according to claim 9 which comprises a 40 mer portion of the nucleotide sequence.

B3
25. The oligonucleotide according to claim 8 which corresponds to a 5'-end side nucleotide sequence.

26. The oligonucleotide according to claim 23 which corresponds to a 5'-end side nucleotide sequence.

Sw C4
27. The oligonucleotide according to claim 9 which corresponds to a 3'-end side nucleotide sequence.

28. The oligonucleotide according to claim 24 which corresponds to a 3'-end side nucleotide sequence.

29. A composition comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 9 and buffer.--